

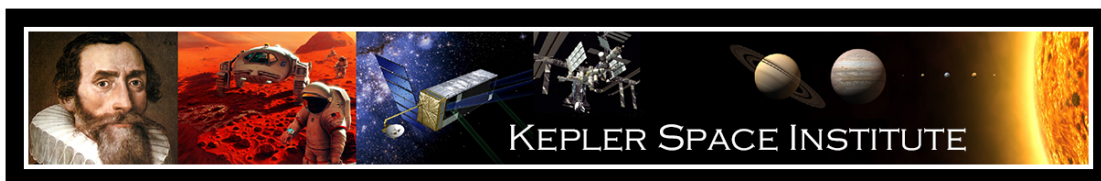
Journal Press Releases – Issues 1 Through 5

By Walt Putnam and Naté Sushereba



Readers of this sixth issue of the Journal of Space Philosophy can review here the press releases of the five earlier issues, then of this Spring 2015 issue.

Press Release – 7 October 2012



***Journal of Space Philosophy* to debut October 15**

By Walt Putnam, KSI Dean of Communications

The Journal of Space Philosophy, which will explore the spirituality and ethics, the cultural imperatives and moral values of the human quest for the stars, will make its debut October 15.

The online publication was developed by Dr. Bob Krone, provost of Kepler Space Institute, who said the *Journal* is a natural fit for anyone interested in extraterrestrial exploration and development.

“Every person who has gazed at the heavens has wondered what it means for themselves and for humankind,” Dr. Krone said.

He added that “Philosophy is the oldest research subject,” going back to the ancient Greeks in the Western world, yet “Humans have only philosophized while personally experiencing space since the middle of the 20th Century.”

Dr. Krone has assembled a distinguished Board of Editors to guide the publication – including *The Overview Effect* author Frank White, Dr. Paul Werbos of the National Science Foundation, science author Howard Bloom, and Mars Society President Dr. Robert Zubrin.

The first issue will feature “Nature’s Cosmic Intelligence” by Dr. Joel Isaacson, professor emeritus of computer science at Southern Illinois University and another member of *The Journal of Space Philosophy* editorial board.

Dr. Krone, author of the *Journal’s* second installment, “Philosophy for Space: Lessons from the Past – Visions for the Future,” will make the case that human explorers beyond Earth must avoid the sort of mistakes made as Western civilization advanced in

conquest mode during the Age of Discovery that began more than 500 years ago with Columbus's journey to the New World.

Article submissions, to BobKrone@aol.com, will be accepted for consideration from "anyone on Earth or in Space," Dr. Krone said. He said reproduction and downloading of *Journal* content for educational purposes will be permitted, but authors will hold copyrights for their material, and professional accreditation is required.

With the *Journal of Space Philosophy*, Kepler Space Institute has created a professional online blog-interactive journal for a major academic and science discipline – Space.

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Press Release, April 1, 2013

Universal Truths Unlocked in Philosophers' Dreams

By Walter Putnam

All too often, discussions on space exploration and development fail to recognize some of the underlying principles at work in discourse on subjects with such a potentially profound impact on civilization. We get so caught up in the fundamentals, the science and engineering and – dare we mention – the funding of complex projects and missions that we tend to overlook the "why" which propels our dreams.

It is true that there are practical reasons behind the goal of discovery and practical approaches are required to yield the desired results. Yet, there are no doubt intangible factors that come into play whenever humans venture forth to open new frontiers. There were sound reasons to invent a machine that enables us to fly through the air to get from point A to point B, quicker and without some of the obstacles of ground transportation. But who can deny that development of air travel followed centuries of dreaming about breaking the constraints of gravity and flying through the sky like a bird?

Some of the ideas that spring from the well of creation precede their practical application by many generations. Others seem to go hand in hand. Still others follow the flow, making sense of new developments after the fact in the way that we are just now beginning to realize the ramifications that the Internet is having, and will continue to have, on culture and civilization in the future.

In Dr. Robert Krone's second volume of *The Journal of Space Philosophy*, produced under the auspices of Kepler Space Institute, of which Dr. Krone is provost, we continue to explore the universal truths that are interlocked with advancements in the study and exploration of extraterrestrial space. In Volume I, we were treated to essays on the meaning of a glimpse of Earth from space through Frank White's explanation of "The Overview Effect," the mysteries of "dark information" streaking throughout the Universe indicative of a Cosmic intelligence, as outlined by Dr. Joel Isaacson, and Dr. Terry Tang's insights into the influence of Chinese language and culture on China's space program.

These are just a few among the dozen essays contained in the Journal, which debuted in the autumn of 2012. In Volume II, we will continue to learn how these “universal truths” are unlocked by the study and understanding of philosophers. For just a sample: “What is Dark Energy? A Toroidal Model of the Cosmos: The Big Bagel” by Howard Bloom and “The Exploration Imperative,” by Rod Pyle.

It is not an idle study. The ideas and thoughts that run parallel with developments in the realm of space will have an impact not just on current developments, but also far into the future, as witnessed through the “Overview Effect” and its impact on protection of Earth’s environment, or as the global discoveries and explorations of the Renaissance planted the seeds of the Enlightenment, which in turn fostered new thoughts on human rights and freedoms, yielding a whole new way of thinking on democracy in the New World of the 18th Century.

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Press Release, September 24, 2013

Key to Intelligence Likely Universal

By Walter Putnam

Intelligent extraterrestrial life forms would most likely possess the same key to transforming sensory data into cognition as humans and other cognitive life here on Earth, a Dutch theorist writes in the next issue of *The Journal of Space Philosophy*.

The link lies in *recursive distinctioning*, a term applied to a “principle that underlies all perceptual and cognitive processes,” according to Dr. Marc van Duijn, a lecturer at the Faculty of Sciences at the Free University of Amsterdam.

In the third installment of Kepler Space Institute’s online philosophy journal, to appear October 1, van Duijn builds on the research and writing of Dr. Joel Isaacson, who wrote of recursive distinctioning as it applies to the concept of universal, or cosmic, intelligence in the first edition of *The Journal of Space Philosophy* in the Fall of 2012.

“What happens in RD is that an agent capable of spatial and/or temporal distinction-making makes local discriminations on raw proximal sensory inputs and subsequently uses this new pattern, made up of local distinctions, as an input for another round of distinction-making,” writes van Duijn, adding that the recursive process can be repeated indefinitely.

He notes that this and other principles of intelligence “can not only be used to come to a more coherent theoretical understanding of what natural cognition is as a biological phenomenon, but can also be used as biologically plausible constraints on thinking about the nature of extraterrestrial forms of intelligence.”

Van Duijn, who received his PhD in theoretical philosophy in 2012 at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, concludes that more research is needed to prove that such principles are universal biological mechanisms.

But he writes that “the discovery of universal principles of biological cognition could help us go beyond mere speculation, so that we can come to a biologically plausible understanding of how intelligent life on other planets might have evolved.”

In another essay in the Fall 2013 *Journal*, Adriano Autino, co-founder and president of Space Renaissance International, argues that there is a moral imperative for humans to explore and develop extraterrestrial space.

Autino’s rationale, in an essay titled “The Expansion of Civilization Beyond Earth: A Moral Issue,” is that human civilization is so threatened that declining to advance as a species by expanding horizons beyond Earth would be tantamount to suicide.

Rejecting proponents of “de-growth” as a means of curbing human consumption and ravaging of the global environment, Autino writes that resources of space are “virtually endless and can cover human needs for several millennia to come.”

“Therefore, while the modern Savonarolas advocate a season of thrift and *wise administration of misery*, we should learn to handle the large abundance and freedom that we will find in space,” concludes Autino, an Italian entrepreneur in information technology and automation.

The essays by Autino and van Duijn are among the 10 articles in the fall issue of the *Journal*, the brainchild of KSI Provost Bob Krone.

“Our mission for both *The Journal of Space Philosophy* and Kepler Space Institute includes contributing to research holding potential for improving the capability, the affordability, the efficiency and the effectiveness of space exploration, development or human settlements,” Krone said. “In this issue we feature research into intelligence.”

Other articles in the upcoming *Journal* include “Utopia: Philosophy and Reality,” by Dr. Krone; “Deep Space III: The Human Space Program,” by Frank White; and “METALAW: From Speculation to HumanKind – Legal Posturing with Extraterrestrial Life,” by George S. Robinson.

Also presented are: “Asteroid Mining – The Low Hanging Fruit of Space Abundance,” by KSI President Robert Frantz and Michael Buet; “Space Business and Management,” by Thomas H. Olson; “Philosophy for Humans in Space” by Bob Krone; and “Bigger and Hotter Rockets and their Consequences,” by William Mook.

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Press Release, March 23, 2014

Wide Array of Ideas in New *Journal of Space Philosophy*

By Walter Putnam

Ideas ranging from space solar power as the energy of the future to the spiritual movement behind extraterrestrial development are contained in the next issue of the *Journal of Space Philosophy*.

The fourth installment of the *Journal*, a semiannual online collection of thoughts that drive humankind’s reach for the stars, also features essays on the political feasibility of

space missions, the nature of “Celestial Values,” and a tribute to one of the founders of KSI, the late Dr. Richard S. Kirby.

Also in the issue due April 1 is a new feature on Space Art, providing glimpses of the work of artists inspired by the natural works of the universe. The first display will include a memorial to the wife of space art pioneer and longtime KSI associate Lowry Burgess. Janet Burgess died March 8 after a brief illness.

And, there also is a preview of a new book by Professor Yehezkel Dror, a leading scholar of policy sciences. Dror’s *Avant-garde Politician: Leaders for a New Epoch*, explores the critical need for new thinking in political leadership, including “looking beyond our current tribalisms to a pan-human commonality.”

Former U.S. Air Force civilian engineer James Michael “Mike” Snead begins the spring *Journal* with a provocative argument for ensuring the global energy future through the development of satellites to capture the Sun’s radiation.

Comparing the planet to the Titanic sailing into an ice field, Snead uses a wealth of facts and figures to demonstrate that America faces economic and cultural ruin by reliance on fossil fuels through the remainder of this century.

“Consequently, absent the building of substantial sustainable energy sources, in time to transition smoothly from fossil fuels, our American culture will undergo disaster,” writes Snead, who argues strongly for U.S. leadership in space development.

“The facts supporting this contention are quantifiable and easily understandable. The conclusion is simple arithmetic showing that the U.S. energy ledger is substantially in the red.”

He then lays out that arithmetic in a compelling argument for SBSP.

William Mook, a past contributor to the *Journal*, the brainchild of KSI President Robert Krone, also adds to the case with an essay titled “Solar Power Satellites for a Sustainable Industrial Future.”

On a different note, Madhu Thangavelu writes of “Human Space Activity: The Spiritual Imperative,” and Walter Putnam has an essay titled “Astro-Humanism: Space as a Spiritual Movement,” in which he suggests that the international political will for extraterrestrial development might come only through a global spiritual thrust.

In a similar vein, Stephen Wolfe explains “The Evolutionary Impulse to Expand Beyond Earth,” Arthur Woods expounds on “The Space Option: Our Cosmic Choice,” and Kim Peart delves into the realm of “Celestial Values.”

Among other essays, Gordon Arthur describes “Richard Kirby’s Inspiration,” Krone and Snead consider “Political Feasibility and Space Missions,” and Stephanie Lynne Thorburn outlines “The Promise and Wisdom of Nanotechnology.”

Readers of the spring *Journal* also will be treated to an account of how American prisoners of war in Vietnam learned of the Apollo landing on the Moon in 1969, “The Happiest 20 Seconds of Our Lives,” by Leo Thorsness.

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Press Release, September 9, 2014

Leadership for All Humanity Said to Be Key for Space Development

By Walter Putnam

The teachings of Israeli political scientist Yehezkel Dror, which call for leadership based on concern for the good of all humanity, hold the key to advancement of civilization into space, according to the next edition of the *Journal of Space Philosophy*.

Not only is political leadership essential for the success of the forthcoming space age, but Dror's conclusions in his latest book, *Avant-Garde Politician: Leaders for a New Epoch* (April 2014, Westphalia Press) provide the prescriptions for the type of leadership needed, Dr. Robert Krone writes in the fifth semi-annual installment of the online journal.

Dr. Krone, the president of Kepler Space Institute and the founder and senior editor of KSI's *Journal of Space Philosophy*, notes that "Dror does not use Space as a focus, but this article is specifying the future of humans in Space as an illustrative example."

"The Space environment has many features that make the Dror assumptions more achievable in Space than on Earth," Dr. Krone writes of the professor emeritus of political science at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Among those features: There is no history of human conflicts in space; and many of the major missions and projects achieved in space are international in scope.

"Dror's primary prescription for avant-garde leadership is to make the good of humanity a priority," Dr. Krone continues.

"Earth's historic demographics reveal no nation, society, or international entity giving humanity preference beyond the boundaries of that entity. Leaders are elected or created by swearing allegiance to people within those boundaries."

The article on Dror's book is one of ten scheduled for the Fall 2014 edition of the *Journal*, which debuted two years ago in the Fall of 2012.

In another essay, titled "Random Thoughts on Morals, Values; Good, Evil and Human Nature," the Rev. Lawrence G. Downing explores whether space societies will be more benign than human history would indicate.

"Does the past cast the mold for the future? No! However, and it is a huge HOWEVER, we cannot assume that good intentions and careful selection will assure a bright and peaceful future for those who inhabit Space," writes Downing, a Seventh-Day Adventist pastor for more than 40 years and a pioneer in the field of Space Faith.

He cautions that we can educate the young, embed our moral values and uphold the highest ethical practices, but "Suddenly, like a gale from some far place, without warning or reason, one of the carefully chosen ones with an enviable track record, for no apparent reason, goes off track and once more evil reigns."

Among other articles in the fall *Journal*, Lonnie Jones Schorer writes of “Education for Tomorrow’s Space Developers”; Gordon Arthur discusses “Religion and Values: Cosmic or Universal Ethics?”; and legal scholar George S. Robinson extols on “Saving the Human Species and Its Evolving Descendants: The Role of Jurisprudence and Practitioners of Space Law in Safeguarding and Cultural Evolution of Humankind’s Individual and Collective Essence.”

There is an essay on “Defrosting Frozen Wisdom,” by the late KSI co-founder Dr. Richard S. Kirby; and others titled “The Planet Moon Project,” by David Schrunk, and “The Stars are in Our Reach,” by William Mook.

A panel discussion on “Space Dilemmas” from the 2014 International Space Development Conference is re-created – featuring Nicola Sarzi-Amade, Howard Bloom, Geoff Notkin, Ian O’Neill, and Madhu Thangavelu; and Dr. Krone adds further reflection with “A Personal Philosophy.”

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About the Authors: