

Proposal for Forming an IAA Study Group S 2.5

Title of Study:

Astrobiological Studies of Solar Systems

Proposer:

John D. Rummel, Ph.D.

Primary IAA Commission Preference: Commission 2: Life Sciences

(From Commission 1 to Commission 6)

Secondary IAA Commission Interests: Commission 1: Space Physical Sciences

(From Commission 1 to Commission 6)

Members of Study Team

Chair: John D. Rummel, Ph.D.

Co-Chair: Gerda Horneck, Ph.D.

Secretary: Gerhard Kminek, Ph.D.

Other Members: *(Tentative)*

Pascale Ehrenfreund, Ph.D.

Christopher McKay, Ph.D.

Michael A. Meyer, Ph.D.

Wesley T. Huntress, Ph.D.

Victoria Meadows, Ph.D.

Jill Tarter, Ph.D.

Others TBD

Short Description of Scope of Study

Overall Goal: To write a position paper addressing the key issues related to an exobiology/astrobiology strategy for the exploration of this solar system and extra-solar planetary systems. Embodied will be new concepts developed by the Study Team based on existing roadmaps for astrobiological study, explicit reference to international capabilities and interests, and a timeline for accomplishment of astrobiology objectives implicit in the strategy.

In addition, the question of an application of human capabilities to this strategy will be included by reference to the IAA cosmic study undertaken by Commission 1, " Next Steps in Exploring Deep Space."

Intermediate Goals: Identify the issues; review the literature; provide presentations at scientific meetings (e.g., Vancouver, Fukuoka); hold study group

meetings electronically and at these conferences; draft the position paper and publish it.

Methodology: Review and coalescence of existing strategies; presentations at IAA and other scientific meetings; study group meetings at scientific conferences; e-mail communications.

Time Line: Two years.

Final Product (Report, Publication, etc.): A publishable quality position paper summarizing the area, reviewing existing strategic resources, and making recommendations for future missions and ground-based research.

Target Community: IAA, space agencies, aerospace industry, space life scientists, planetary scientists; astronomical scientists, other managers, scientists, and engineers planning space missions.

Support Needed: Space on program at IAA-sponsored scientific conferences; meeting room at such IAA conferences; publication costs (website and paper versions).

Potential Sponsors: IAA; space agencies (e.g., NASA, ESA, CSA, CNES, DLR, Russian Space Agency, Japanese Space Agency[Jaxa]).

To be returned to IAA Secretariat Paris fax: 33 1 47 23 82 16 email: sgeneral@iaa.net.org

Date: 9/29/03

Signature: John D. Rummel, Ph.D.

For IAA Use Only:

**Approved, October 30, 2003
Dr. K. Kasturirangan, SAC VP**