

SETI PC meeting, IAC 2022 - notes from the chair.

The PC was well attended with more than 30+ participants in-person and around the same number joining remotely via zoom. The SETI sessions were also well attended during the IAC with 100+ participants present at each session. The Interactive Presentations were also very popular and are becoming a familiar feature of IAC meetings. The lunar Farside protection meeting was also well attended with some good talks from various entities, including the ITU.

The PC meeting kicked off with tributes to members of the community that have recently passed away - Frank Drake, Franklin Antonio and Bart Wlodarczyk-Sroka. Several videos were shown and are available online:

- ATA HRC Short Doc (12 mins): <https://youtu.be/1lPtLqXjlvq>
- SI Franklin Tribute (5 mins): https://youtu.be/_llogBF7iNE
- FRANK DRAKE 90th Updated (8 mins): <https://youtu.be/xUf5ZoQHPU>
- SI FRANK DRAKE Tribute: <https://youtu.be/z4wIXbc97W8>

Google Drive Link to Files:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VXSdRXlxjdtkur1yQ2rth09J1P-0a8fz?usp=sharing>

The chair's report to IAA commission 1 (Basic Sciences) was briefly presented.

Lori Walton, with support from Fabrice Dennemont in Paris, has been able to rationalise the members list - there are now 96 members uniquely identified and the list of names is now jointly agreed on by the PC and the IAA Office. A round of applause followed Lori's statement! Some members will receive appointment letters from the IAA by e-mail soon - they should reply to these accepting this invitation - a formal letter will then follow (also via e-mail).

A major topic of the meeting was the email from Les Tennen (PC member and also a member of the IAA Board of Trustees) providing an update on the Terms of Reference (ToR) he is drafting. This is a generic ToR that will apply to all the IAA standing committees, including the IAA SETI PC. A major question for us is whether to maintain the sentence that excludes the study of UFOs. My perception is that the membership would rather this exclusion did not appear in the new ToR. At the same time, it was felt that most of our membership's technical activity focuses on looking beyond the Earth's atmosphere for evidence of intelligent life beyond the Earth. However, there was also a general feeling that if recent initiatives designed to study UAP within the atmosphere generated compelling results, the PC (and the IAC SETI sessions) should recognise that and be prepared to accept papers/presentations and review the evidence. The new ToR are expected to be approved by the IAA BoT at the

spring meeting in 2023.

Kathryn Denning gave a very comprehensive review of Post-detection protocol activities around the world. Further progress from a PC perspective requires a sub-committee or working group to be convened, but this may need to wait until the new ToRs are approved by the IAA. Martin Dominik and John Elliot made a presentation on plans to set up a Post-detection hub based in the UK. Members are encouraged to take a look at Kathryn's detailed presentation (see the dropbox link below).

Updates on SETI activities were presented by Breakthrough Listen (Pete Worden), the SETI Institute (Bill Diamond), the NASA ExEP technosignature gap list study (Virisha Timmaraju) and the Penn State Extraterrestrial Intelligence Centre (Jason Wright).

Upcoming SETI meetings:

IAC meetings will be in Baku Azerbaijan (2023), Milan (2024) and Sydney (2025).

PSETI 2023, 19-22 June 2023 (thereafter biennial).

Possible SETI Session at AAS (January 2023) - see Steve Croft.

Breakthrough Discuss, June? 2023 (TBC) - see Jamie Drew.

Breakthrough Listen kick-off event associated with UK launch (2023/24) - see Andrew Siemion.

Meeting documents can be found at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/enjqhny9gytcltq/AABqsT4D6DnBD3fLxM9eg54ta?dl=0>

Mike Garrett, IAA SETI PC chair.