



Dear ARI Members, Supporters, and Followers,

ARI is pleased to announce an open call for our next issue of ***Astrosociological Insights***, which is the only newsletter dedicated to astrosociological topics and the development of astrosociology as an academic field. Our spotlight is on *astrosociological research into the issues associated with global space governance*, **but we invite articles on any topic related to astrosocial phenomena and the reciprocal relationship of humans to outer space.**

## Call for Articles

**Background:** Our spotlight theme carries forward the conversation begun at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Manfred Lachs International Conference on Global Space Governance, held May 29 – 31, 2014 in Montreal, Canada.

The conference program and presentations are available at <http://www.mcgill.ca/iasl/manfred-lachs-conference-2014/program>

**Overview:** Astrosociology examines *astrosocial phenomena*, defined as the social, cultural, and behavioral patterns related to outer space, which include the efforts of humans as we research, engage in, and are affected by space-related activities. Understanding this dimension of outer space is critical to our long-term success as we strive to develop human spacefaring societies on Earth.

While we invite articles on any astrosociological topic, this issue of *Astrosociological Insights* will spotlight how the methodologies, insights, and collaborative nature of astrosociological research provide a lens to focus on the challenges, opportunities, and future direction of global space

law and governance.

### **Prompting Questions:**

#### Terrestrial Space Diplomacy

- How can political transparency in space governance be implemented and sustained?
- What are the unrealized possibilities and practical challenges of governing by the International Code of Conduct, drafted in 2010?
- How should the international community handle nations that promote the military use of outer space?

#### Cooperative Approaches toward Space Governance

- What lessons can be taken, both positive and negative, from the example of the International Space Station?
- How can the multidisciplinary nature of astrosociology contribute to a cooperative model of space governance?

#### Public vs. Private Economic Interests

- How do private economic interests in space conflict with public interests? How can the conflict be mediated?
- What are potential practical applications of international treaties like the Outer Space and Moon Treaties?
- What will it take for nations to ratify comprehensive and binding space agreements? Should private stakeholders be required to ratify as well?

#### Divergent National Interests: Inequality and Inequity

- How can developing nations secure greater access to space resources?
- What is the international willingness to commit to comprehensive, collaborative, and transparent space governance?
- How do we mitigate threats from politically and economically marginalized groups?

#### Mixing Military and Cooperative Activities in Space

- What should be the role of the United Nations in promoting peaceful

- uses of outer space?
- Is deterrence (through military threat) a good policy for promoting peaceful uses?
- What are legitimate uses of the military in outer space?

#### Divergent Intra-national Interests

- How can we create collaborative and sustainable space governance within partisan-divided terrestrial governments?
- What is the impact of terrestrial social inequality vis-à-vis representative space governance?
- What could currently marginalized groups add to space governance policies?

#### Interplanetary Space Governance

- Should we attempt to recreate terrestrial governments in non-terrestrial environments?
- How do we guarantee human rights and civil liberties in highly regulated non-terrestrial societies?

#### Other Public, National, and International Issues

- How to address privacy issues arising from proliferation of public and private communications, data-gathering, and surveillance satellites?
- How do we calculate responsibility and liability for planetary defense?
- What government plans are there, should there be, for reporting, planning, and responding to extraterrestrial signals?

#### Future of Space Governance

- What is the impact on Earth as we transition from a space-capable to a spacefaring planet?
- How much responsibility do powerful nations have to help less powerful nations become spacefaring?
- What would an ideal future organization for regulating space activities and policies look like?

**Submissions:** This open call for submissions should incorporate and address questions similar to the ones posed above. We welcome and encourage contributions from both public and private stakeholders, researchers,

practitioners, developers, and scholars in aerospace, science, social science, and the humanities.

**Extended Deadline!** Please send contributions to Kathleen Toerpe at [ktoerpe@astrosociology.org](mailto:ktoerpe@astrosociology.org) by **Sunday, September 7, 2014**. Please contact me if you anticipate needing a short extension of the deadline.

- Shorter pieces should be between 300 and 600 words.
- Longer contributions should not exceed 1000 words.
- All submissions must be in MS Word format.
- All editorial decisions are final and any submission not included may be considered for the next issue.

Read back issues of our newsletter on our Virtual Library page at <http://astrosociology.org/vlibrary.html>. Look for the link titled “**Issues of Astrosociological Insights Newsletter**.” If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. ARI is also on Twitter at @astrosociology.

We thank you for your continuing interest in astrosociology and for exploring with us the human dimension of outer space.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen D. Toerpe  
Editor  
*Astrosociological Insights*