

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION



Astrosociology Research Institute

P.O. Box 1129

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Date: July 29, 2013

Re: New Hires and Staff Changes at the Astrosociology Research Institute

The Astrosociology Research Institute is pleased to announce the hiring of Kathleen Toerpe as the new Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Public Outreach and Education, and Renato Rivera as Deputy Chief Executive Officer for International Outreach and Education and Assistant Secretary of ARI.

Kathy currently teaches social studies courses at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. She earned an Honors BA in History and Philosophy (1984) from Marquette University, a MA in Public History (1990), and PhD in American History (1992) from Loyola University Chicago. She is also active with the 100-Year Starship program.

Renato is a graduate of Japanese Studies at Stirling University in Scotland and has conducted research on Japanese popular culture at Osaka University and Kyoto University. He is currently a lecturer at the School of Commerce, Meiji University and teaches an introductory course on social and economic factors related to space exploration and development as part of the Special Themed Practicum classes in Meiji University. Renato is also a member of the "Uchuu seizongaku kenyuukai," a research group for the study of issues pertaining to the changing role of culture in the space age and its imagined future for the survival of mankind.

At the Board of Directors level, Christopher Hearsey has been elected to serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Dr. Pass had served as Chairman of the Board and now passes that responsibility to Mr. Hearsey as ARI continues to expand. Dr. Pass was also re-elected to a new five-term term to the ARI Board of Directors.

At the ARI Management level, Simone Caroti has stepped down as Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Public Outreach and Education and as Treasurer and Secretary of ARI. Simone continues to serve on the Board of Directors and will take up the post of Assistant Secretary of ARI. Christopher Hearsey will take over for Simone as Secretary and Treasurer of ARI.

CONTACT

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Chief Executive Officer

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