



The Astrosociology Research Institute (ARI)

## Call for Articles

*Astrosociological Insights* Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2017 Edition

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 next newsletter will focus on **space law and space policy**.* (Note: we also encourage **space history** articles, especially as they relate to space law and policy).

Please send contributions to Jim Pass at [jpass@astrosociology.org](mailto:jpass@astrosociology.org) by **Monday, September 5, 2017**.

### Editorial Guidelines:

- Shorter pieces should be between 500 and 1000 words.
- Longer contributions should not exceed 1500 words.
- All submissions must be in MS Word format, and *should use numbered endnotes for references*.
- For guidelines on English language usage, please consult style manuals such as APA, MLA, or the *Chicago Manual of Style*.
- Please include a recent photo and a brief biographical byline or statement of professional affiliation.
- All editorial decisions are final and any submission not included remains eligible for consideration for the next issue unless otherwise stated or withdrawn for consideration by the author.

### Call for Articles

**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. As a collective endeavor, astrosociology brings together a broad spectrum of academic disciplines to create individual and collaborative research that furthers this understanding.

This issue welcomes articles on any research topic relevant to astrosociology, and encourages authors to emphasize areas of interdisciplinary collaboration among the physical/biological sciences, the social sciences, the humanities, as well as the literary, performing, and visual arts. We also encourage authors to relate how space law and policy have changed over time and what effects these changes have had on societies and international relations.

### **Prompting Questions:**

#### Space Law

- What is your interpretation of the 1967 outer space treaty?
  - Is it relevant today, or do we need to update it?
- What is your interpretation of the 1984 Moon treaty?
  - Can nations and corporations work within it? Why or why not?
- How do the two treaties above interact and/or conflict with one another?
- Do you foresee violations of the space treaties as inevitable?
  - If so, what types of remedies are recommended?
- How do nations and corporations currently work with Outer Space and Moon treaties in force?
- How is space law affected by these two treaties?
  - Has space law circumvented these treaties in any way(s)?
- What solutions, if any, do you recommend?
  - Update existing treaties? How?
  - Scratch existing treaties and implement new one(s)?
    - Recommendations?

#### Space Policy

- What are the major space policy issues today?
- What are your views regarding robotic vs. human space exploration?
  - Are they compatible?

- Are certain types of missions/activities best accomplished by one over the other?
- Is space exploration for the benefit of all nations?
  - How should developing nations benefit, if at all?
- How do security issues limit the sharing of scientific and technological innovations with other nations?
  - Can a collective security regime work?
    - What characteristics do you favor?
    - What limits do you foresee?
- Does the U.S. currently face a space race with China and other nations?
  - What are the implications?
  - Can cooperative missions reduce any tensions that may exist?
- Is the militarization of space inevitable?
  - Has it already begun? If so, provide examples.
  - What international policies can limit military incursions into outer space?
- What other policy issues rank as high priorities?

**Submissions:** *While the upcoming issue of the newsletter focuses on specific topic(s), it is an open call for submissions on any research topic pertaining to astrosociology although it should, in part, 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 fields, sciences, social sciences, the arts, and the humanities.*

Read back issues of our newsletter on our Virtual Library page at [http://www.astrosociology.org/vlibrary.html#VL\\_Newsletter](http://www.astrosociology.org/vlibrary.html#VL_Newsletter). It appears in the section called “**Issues of Astrosociological Insights Newsletter.**” If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

ARI’s official Twitter account: [@astrosociology](https://twitter.com/astrosociology) (posts by Dr. Jim Pass). Also on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/astrosociology/>

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

Sincerely,

*Jim Pass*

Jim Pass, Ph.D.

Acting Editor

*Astrosociological Insights*