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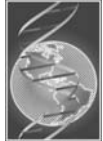
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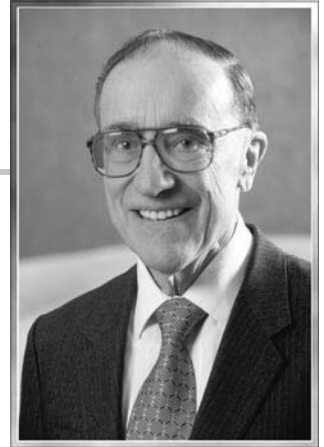
Astronomical Images

- Page i A portion of the Arecibo Observatory, Puerto Rico. *Photo courtesy of the NAIC - Arecibo Observatory, a facility of the NSF. Photo by Tony Acevedo.*
- Page iii A cluster of brilliant, massive stars known as Hodge 301 in the Tarantula Nebula. *Image credit: Hubble Heritage Team (AURA/STScI/NASA).*
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- Page ix Illustration of Carl Sagan with Hubble Space Telescope in background. *Artwork by Paul Hudson.*
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- Page 1 Galaxy cluster Abell 2218. *Image credit: Andrew Fruchter (STScI) et al., WFPC2, HST, NASA.*
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July 2000

Dear Readers:

What is the status of humanity's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI)? How and when might contact occur? What might we expect in terms of positive and negative impacts from that contact? In the following pages you will find the most current thinking concerning the likely long-term impact of a dialogue between humankind and extraterrestrial intelligence.

Scientists and scholars throughout the world have identified extraterrestrial intelligence as one of the critical factors expected to bear significantly on the long-term future of humanity. In summer 1999, the Foundation For the Future sponsored a seminar in Hawaii dedicated to furthering our understanding of likely cultural impacts of such contact.

We are very pleased to present this book, which provides a record and summation of the Hawaii seminar, as well as several insightful papers written by scholars who took part in those discussions. I hope you will enjoy reading their thoughtful conclusions.

Sincerely,

Walter P. Kistler
President and Benefactor



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