

Invitation to ETI



Project URL: <http://ietl.org>

Principal Investigator: Prof. H. Paul Shuch (paul@ietl.org)

Mission:

The mission of the [Invitation to ETI](#) is to establish communication with any form of extraterrestrial intelligence able to monitor our World Wide Web.

Rationale:

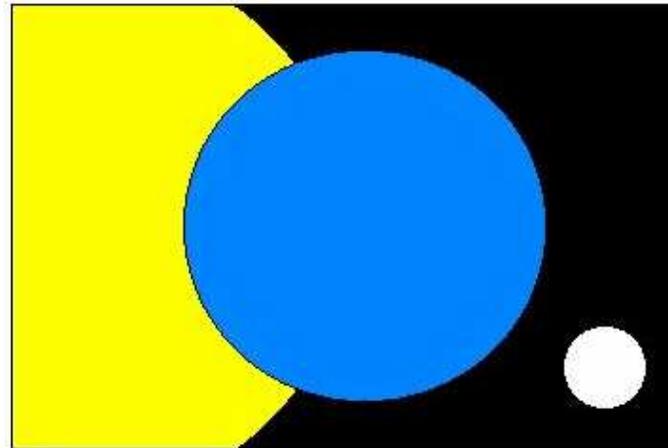
SETI scientists agree that any alien civilization we detect will likely be much older than human civilization. This means their science, technology, philosophy, goals, values, and ethics may have had a million years to develop, whereas ours have had only a few thousand. We envision civilizations that, during this million-year period, have developed smart small robotic probes (or some other means) for studying our civilization, including its worldwide computer network called the World Wide Web.

Approach:

- Assemble a diverse body of Signatories, including physical and social scientists, futurists, artists, authors, and others
- Secure a representative Domain and URL
- Design an accessible, compelling, and inviting website
- Issue a sincere invitation for advanced Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence to establish a dialog with humankind
- Achieve high placement in web indices and search engines
- Widely publicize the project to the scientific community through journal articles and conference presentations
- Dispassionately evaluate communications with claimed ETI

Co-Investigators:

- Prof. Allen Tough, Chief Scientist
- Ms. Anne Hartman, Researcher
- Team of 100 Signatories



Like all SETI experiments, the [Invitation to ETI](#) flies the Flag of Earth, which underscores its pursuit on behalf of all humankind.

Schedule Milestone and Accomplishments:

- June 1996 (Technology Readiness Level 1)**
 - Invitation to ETI concept first articulated by Prof. Allen Tough
- November 1996 (Technology Readiness Level 2)**
 - First Invitation to ETI pages posted to Prof. Tough's AOL website
- October 1998 (Technology Readiness Level 3)**
 - First IETI Signatories recruited; formal Invitation posted to website
- November 2001 (Technology Readiness Level 4)**
 - Secured the domain ietl.org
- November 2004 (Technology Readiness Level 5)**
 - Unveiled new W3C compliant and Bobby accessible website
- December 2004 (Technology Readiness Level 6)**
 - Performed first evaluation of purported physical evidence of ETI

TRL = 7

Rev. 19 May 2007

Keywords: SETI, Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, ETI, communication, dialog, invitation, website, internet-based