Invitation to ETI

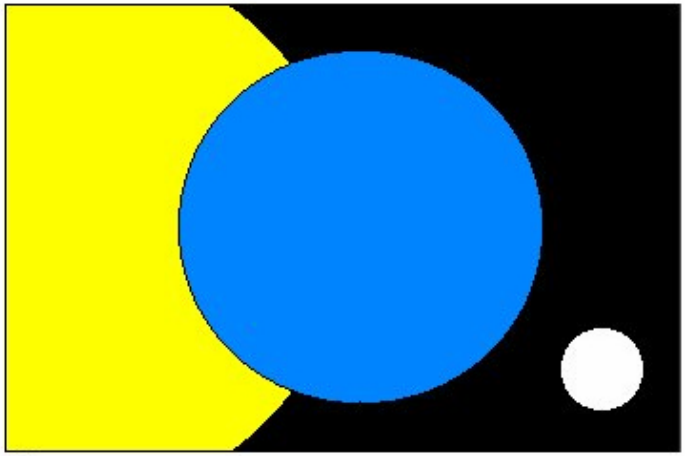
Project URL: http://ieti.org Principal Investigator: Dr. H. Paul Shuch (paul@ieti.org)

What if…

- ✓ **What if** one or more extraterrestrial civilizations long ago began probing the cosmos, to study their galactic neighbors?
- ✓ **What if** one of their autonomous space probes should happen to reach planet Earth?
- ✓ **What if** its super-smart Artificial Intelligence could figure out how to tap into the Earthlings' worldwide computer network?
- ✓ **What if** ET's advanced robotic emissary were reading this very page, right now?

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 hypothesize civilizations that, during this million-year period, have developed smart small robotic probes (or some other means) for studying our civilization, including its global computer network, the World Wide Web.



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

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
- Dr. Scarlett Wang, Project Manager
- Team of 100 Signatories

Schedule Milestone and Deliverables:

June 1996 (TRL 1)
- Invitation to ETI concept first articulated by Prof. Allen Tough

November 1996 (TRL 2)
- First Invitation to ETI pages posted to Prof. Tough's AOL website

October 1998 (TRL 3)
- First IETI Signatories recruited; formal Invitation posted to website

November 2001 (TRL 4)
- Secured the domain ieti.org

November 2004 (TRL 5)
- Unveiled new W3C compliant and Bobby accessible website

December 2004 (TRL 6)
- Performed first evaluation of purported physical evidence of ETI

TRL = 7

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