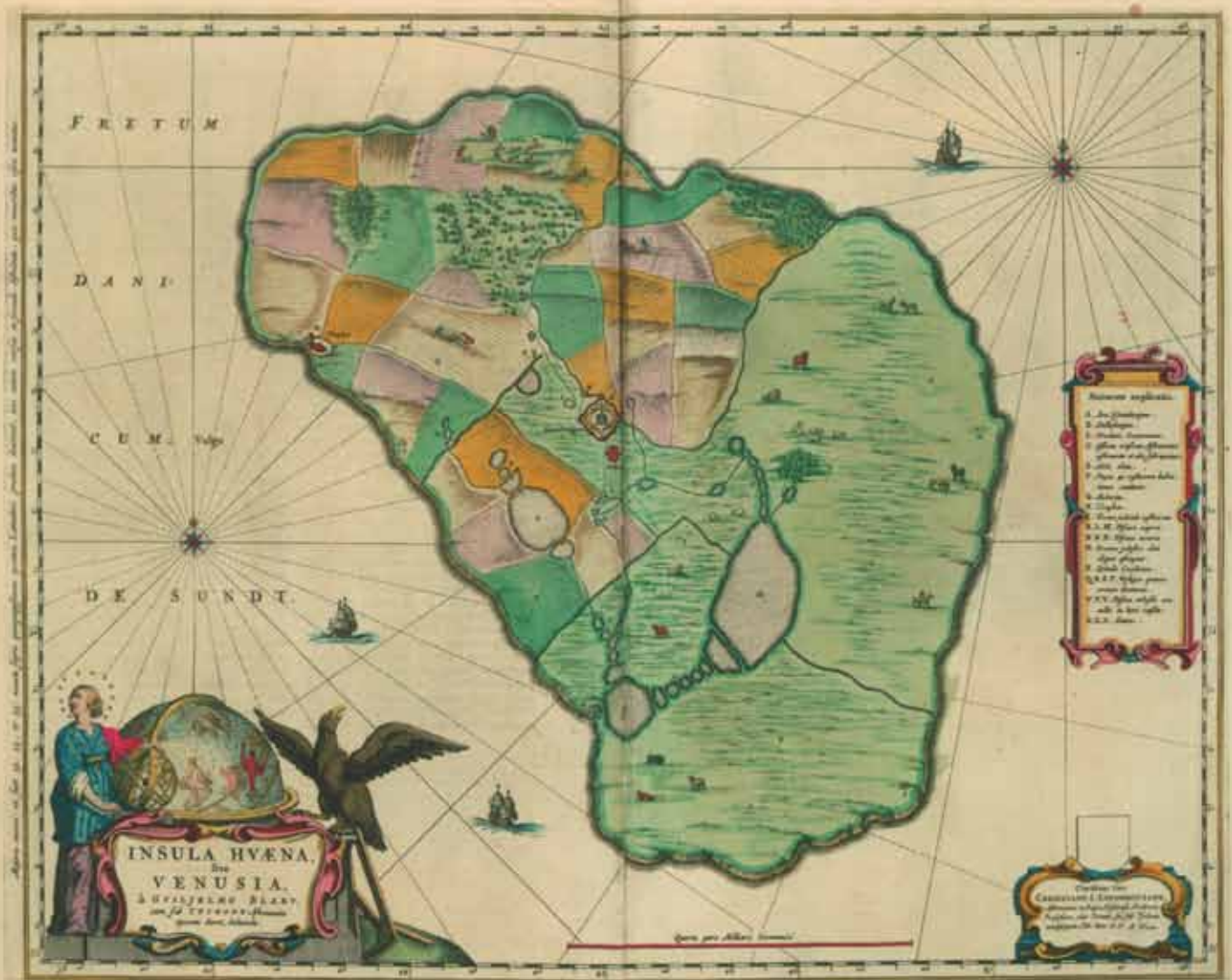


Call for papers:

PUFENDORF INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

The History and Philosophy of Astrobiology



Tycho Brahe's island Ven, Sweden, September 27–28, 2011



LUND UNIVERSITY

Call for papers:

The History and Philosophy of Astrobiology

A Symposium on the history and philosophy of astrobiology will be held on Tycho Brahe's island Ven, Sweden, September 27–28, 2011. The Symposium is arranged by the astrobiology research theme "[Astrobiology: Past, Present, and Future](#)" arranged by the [Pufendorf Institute for Advanced Studies](#), Lund University. The Pufendorf IAS research program in astrobiology now invite abstracts for oral or poster presentations. We are open for submission until July 15, 2011.

The two-day symposium will explore:

- The history of astrobiology from antiquity to the present, concerning its' theories, methods, instrumentation, organization, and its' interaction with society and popular culture.
- The philosophy of astrobiology, including ethical, societal, epistemological questions, theory of science, interstellar message construction, and cognitive science.

The main goal of the conference is to bring together researchers from all over the world to share their newest results and insights into the wide field of the history and philosophy of life in the Universe.

The conference will provide an opportunity for historians, philosophers, linguists, cognitive scientists, astronomers, chemists, biologists, geologists, and scholars and scientists from other disciplines to meet and discuss research of mutual interest in the history and philosophy of human conceptualization of and actual search for extraterrestrial life in the Universe.

Conference Venue

The conference will be held on Tycho Brahe's island [Ven](#), located in the strait of Öresund, between Sweden and Denmark. The island holds historic sites and remains from the time of Tycho Brahe. These include a reconstructed Renaissance Garden, ruins of Tycho Brahe's observatory and a [Tycho Brahe Museum](#). This beautifully located island is reached by ferry from the small town Landskrona, Sweden. Landskrona can easily be reached by [train](#) from Copenhagen, Malmö or Lund. Nearest international airport is [Copenhagen Airport](#), Denmark. There are direct trains from the airport to Landskrona and the ferry service has frequent daily departures.

The conference will be held at the conference centre [Spirit of Hven Backafallsbyn](#) on Ven.

Scientific Program

Sessions on the history and philosophy of astrobiology

Keynote lectures: 45 minutes

Paper presentations: 20 minutes

Poster session

Topics

Presentations should involve research on the history and philosophy of astrobiology. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- The emergence of astrobiology as scientific field
- The history of exploration of extraterrestrial environments in the search of life
- History of astrobiological theories: planetary system models, etc.
- History of instrumentation, methodology, and technology
- History of planet detection and its methods
- The organisation of astrobiology: institutions, laboratories, journals, etc.
- History of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI)
- Astrobiology and society: public communication, economy, and politics
- History of imagination
- Science fiction and popular culture
- Planet protection
- Space ethics
- Definition of life
- Astrobiology and religion
- Astrobiology research policy
- Interstellar communication: cognitive, semiotic, and linguistic approaches
- Cognitive aspects of the development of intelligence

Keynote Speakers (confirmed)

Milan M. Ćirković is Research Professor at the Astronomical Observatory of Belgrade, Serbia, Associate Professor at the Department of Physics, University of Novi Sad, Serbia, and Research Associate of the Future of Humanity Institute, Oxford University, UK. His primary research interests are in the fields of astrobiology (Galactic Habitable Zone, anthropic principles, SETI studies, catastrophic episodes in the history of life), astrophysical cosmology (baryonic dark matter, future of the universe), as well as philosophy of science (risk analysis, observation selection effects, epistemology, transhumanism). He has co-edited the anthology on *Global Catastrophic Risks* (Oxford University Press, 2008), has written two monographs and about 200 research and professional papers, and has translated several books, including titles by Richard P. Feynman and Sir Roger Penrose.

Steven J. Dick, incoming Charles A. Lindbergh Chair in Aerospace History at the National Air and Space Museum. Dick served as the NASA Chief Historian and Director of the NASA History Office from 2003–2009. Among his books are *Plurality of Worlds: The Origins of the Extraterrestrial Life Debate from Democritus to Kant* (1982), *The Biological Universe: The Twentieth Century Extraterrestrial Life Debate and the Limits of Science* (Cambridge University Press, 1996), and *Life on Other Worlds* (1998). Among his most recent books are (with James Strick) *The Living Universe: NASA and the Development of Astrobiology* (2004). He is also editor of *Many Worlds: The New Universe, Extraterrestrial Life and the Theological Implications* (2000).

Michael Perryman, Visiting Professor, Astrophysics Group, School of Physics, University of Bristol (UK). Research interests: space astrometry, Galactic structure, exoplanets, optical instrumentation, radio astronomy. His popular account of the Hipparcos mission, *The Making of History's Greatest Star Map*, was published in 2010. In May 2011 he published the book *The Exoplanet Handbook* (Cambridge University Press) that ties together many avenues of investigation—from the perspectives of observation, technology and theory—to give a comprehensive, up-to-date review of the entire field.

Margaret Race, Ph.D. in ecology, works with NASA through the SETI Institute in Mountain View, CA, where she focuses on astrobiology and searches for extraterrestrial life. Dr. Race specializes in planetary protection—how to plan robotic and human missions in ways that ensure environmental protection of both the Earth and locations in outer space. Her work focuses on integration of scientific and technical needs with broad legal, ethical and societal concerns associated with space exploration and other emerging technologies. In addition to her research and astrobiology work, she is actively involved in science education and public outreach through schools, science museums, libraries, and the mass media.

Woodruff T. Sullivan, III, Professor, Astronomy Department, University of Washington. Professor Sullivan's interests are in astrobiology, the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI), and the history of astronomy. Together with John Baross he edited *Planets and Life: The Emerging Science of Astrobiology*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2007. History of astronomy research emphasizes the twentieth century, in particular the development of early radio astronomy and of ideas on extraterrestrial life. In 2009 he published *Cosmic Noise: A History of Early Radio Astronomy* (Cambridge University Press), which examines in detail the first decade of worldwide radio and radar astronomy.

Social Program

A guided tour in the [Tycho Brahe Museum](#), including a visit to Tycho's observatory and Renaissance Garden.

Proceedings

In order to be eligible for publication in the History and Philosophy of Astrobiology Proceedings, final papers are to be submitted to David Dunér, Lund University (David.Duner@kultur.lu.se), in WordPerfect, Word, or RTF format no later than October 31, 2011. Questions concerning the proceedings may be directed to David Dunér.

Accommodation

Participants will stay at [Spirit of Hven Backafallsbyn](#).

Registration

The number of participants is limited. If you are interested in attending the Symposium please register as soon as possible, at the latest July 15, 2011, by writing to David.Duner@kultur.lu.se. Please state name and academic affiliation.

Registration Fees

Registration fee is € 200 for faculty, € 150 for graduate students. The registration fee includes conference participation, book of abstracts, coffee/snacks, lunch, dinner, ferry, accommodation, social program, guide tour and entrance fee. Admitted participants will receive further instructions concerning payment on August 5.

Abstract Submission

Abstract submission should include the author's name and affiliation, email address, submission title and an abstract of no more than 250 words. Deadline for abstracts: July 15, 2011.

Important Dates

May 5: First call for papers

July 15: Submission of abstracts—deadline

August 5: Selection of contributed communications and posters completed

August 19: Final program announced

September 27: Arrival to Ven, Registration

September 28: Conclusion of the conference

October 31: Submission of articles for the proceedings—deadline

Organizing committee

David Dunér, Associate Professor, History of Science and Ideas, Lund University

Dainis Dravins, Professor, Lund Observatory

Gustav Holmberg, Senior Lecturer, Research Policy Institute, Lund University

Erik Persson, PhD, Practical Philosophy, Lund University

Contact

For further questions, please contact

David Dunér, The Pufendorf IAS, Lund University, Box 117, 221 00 Lund, Sweden

Tel: +46-46-222 62 05, or +46-46-222 09 61

Email: David.Duner@kultur.lu.se



Nova Stella