

8TH INTERSTELLAR SYMPOSIUM

CALL FOR PAPERS

Dates

Early Acceptance:
January 15, 2023

Regular Acceptance:
April 21, 2023

Conference Days:
July 10-13, 2023

Contact

Questions and responses to this call for papers, Workshops and Participation should be directed to:
registrar@irg.space

For updates on the meeting, speakers, and logistics, please refer to the website:
<https://irg.space/irg-2023/>

IRG

The Tennessee Valley Interstellar Workshop (doing business as the Interstellar Research Group, IRG) is a non-profit scientific, educational corporation in the state of Tennessee.

For U.S. tax purposes, IRG is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) educational, non-profit corporation.

Introduction

The Interstellar Research Group (IRG) hereby invites participation in its 8th Interstellar Symposium, hosted by McGill University, to be held from Monday, July 10 through Thursday, July 13, 2023, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. This is the first IRG meeting outside of the United States, and we are excited to partner with such a distinguished institution!

Topics of Interest

The Interstellar Symposium Plenary Lectures focus on applied aspects of interstellar travel (human and robotic). Presentations are selected to represent a broad array of problems salient to different interstellar missions. We invite presentations from researchers in the following fields:

Physics and Engineering

Propulsion, power, communications, navigation, materials, systems design, extraterrestrial resource utilization, breakthrough physics

Astronomy

Exoplanet discovery and characterization, habitability, solar gravitational focus as a means to image exoplanets

Human Factors

Life support, habitat architecture, worldships, population genetics, psychology, hibernation, finance

Ethics

Sociology, law, governance, astroarchaeology, trade, cultural evolution

Astrobiology

Technosignature and biosignature identification, SETI, the Fermi paradox, von Neumann probes, exoplanet terraformation

Submission of other topics of direct relevance to interstellar travel are also welcome. Find examples of presentations at past symposia:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/InterstellarResearchGroup/videos>



INTERSTELLAR RESEARCH GROUP

E-mail: registrar@irg.space

Website: <https://irg.space/irg-2023/>



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Symposium Details

Sagan Meetings

An interested Sagan Meeting organizer is given the option to define a particular question for an in-depth panel discussion. The organizer would be responsible for inviting five speakers to give short presentations staking out a position on a particular question. These speakers will then form a panel to engage in a lively discussion with the audience on that topic. Carl Sagan famously employed this format for his 1971 conference at the Byurakan Observatory in old Soviet Armenia, which dealt with the Drake Equation.

Seminars

Seminars are 3-hour presentations on a single subject, providing an in depth look at that subject. Seminars are held before the Symposium begins, on Saturday, July 8, 2023, with morning and afternoon sessions. The content must be acceptable to be counted as continuing education credit for those holding a Professional Engineer (PE) certificate.

Other Content

Other content includes, but is not limited to, posters, displays of art or models, demonstrations, panel discussions, interviews, or public outreach events. IRG recognizes the importance of a holistic human cultural experience and encourages the submission of non-academic works to be involved with the symposium program.

Publications

The IRG serves as a critical incubator of ideas for the interstellar community. Following the success of the 7th Interstellar Symposium, papers may be submitted for consideration in publication within a special issue of *Acta Astronautica*. Papers from the 7th Symposium (September 2021) have now been published in the [August 2022 issue of Acta Astronautica](#). Contributors who wish to publish their papers elsewhere may do so. Abstracts and papers not published elsewhere will be compiled into a complete Symposium proceedings in book form.

No Paper, No Podium: If a written paper is not submitted by the final manuscript deadline (To Be Announced), authors will not be permitted to present their work at the event. Papers should be original work that has not been previously published.

Video and Archiving

All symposium events may be captured on video or in still images for use on the IRG website, in newsletters and social media. All presenters, speakers, and selected participants will be asked to complete a Release Form that grants permission for IRG to use this content as described.



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Abstract Submission

Abstracts for the 8th Interstellar Symposium must relate to one or more of the many interstellar mission related topics. The previously listed topics are not exclusive but represent a cross-section of possible categories. All abstracts must be submitted online via email to: registrar@irg.space

Presenting Author(s)

Please list only the author(s) who will actually be in attendance and presenting at the conference. (First name, last name, degree – for example, Susan Smith, MD)

Additional Author(s)

List all authors here, including Presenting Author(s) – (first name, last name, degree(s) – for example, Mary Rockford, RN; Susan Smith, MD; John Jones, PhD)

Abbreviation(s)

Abbreviations within the body should be kept to a minimum and must be defined upon first use in the abstract by placing the abbreviation in parenthesis after the represented full word or phrase. Proprietary drug names and logos may NOT be used. Non-proprietary (generic) names should be used.

Abstract Length

The entire abstract (excluding title, authors, presenting author's institutional affiliation(s), city, state, and text) including any tables or figures should be a maximum of 350 words. It is your responsibility to verify compliance with the length requirement.

Abstract Structure

Abstracts must include the following headings:

Title	The presentation title.
Background	Describes the research or initiative context.
Objective	Describes the research or initiative objective.
Methods	Describes research methodology used. For initiatives, describes the target population, program or curricular content, and evaluation method.
Results	Summarizes findings in sufficient detail to support the conclusions.
Conclusion	States the conclusions drawn from results, including their applicability.

