

SoCIA 2018: Social and Conceptual Issues in Astrobiology

13-15 April 2018

University of Nevada, Reno

Announcing the second meeting of a new academic group devoted to the exploration of broad questions surrounding the search for life beyond Earth and the future of life in space. Our emphasis is on issues relevant to the underlying science, but that can't be fully addressed by science alone. These range from social and ethical questions such as "What are our ethical obligations to alien life?" and "How can we leverage the popularity of astrobiology to improve science education?" to theoretical questions within science such as "What exactly is 'life' anyway?" and "What can be predicted about how extraterrestrial life might evolve and develop?" Our ultimate goals are to further research in these areas and provide a ready pool of experts to help organizations pursuing projects in space better think through the implications of their work.

For more information, see the website from last year's inaugural meeting: <http://kcs098.wixsite.com/socia>.

Submit abstracts (300 word max) by August 15th to Kelly Smith: kcs@clemsun.edu.