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## **The Astrobiology Narrative and Strategy: Integrating Scientific Principles and Relevance, Societal Benefits, and Economic Impact. How are we doing? What is next?**

### **Town Hall Title:**

**The Astrobiology Narrative and Strategy:  
Integrating Scientific Principles and  
Relevance, Societal Benefits, and  
Economic Impact. How are we doing?  
What is next?**

**Town Hall Description:**

With the current budget issues of the Mars Sample Return Mission, and concerns regarding the federal budget, the importance of communicating the value of astrobiology to stakeholders and the public has increased. As well, NASA has published the new Value of NASA website and the Economic Impact Report, elevating the priority of the economic impact of space sciences.

And, our field has challenged notably since the last Astrobiology Strategy.

This period of dynamic change and challenge illuminates the opportunity to examine the infrastructure concepts, transdisciplinary span, and multi-faceted outreach of astrobiology. More than science output, how well do we as a field create and communicate societal benefit and economic impact, and engage our audiences?

Some topics that may be discussed in this Townhall include:

1. How can astrobiology improve its message and convey its value to the broad spectrum of stakeholders? Such as congress, academia, and the public?
2. How can astrobiology improve its ability to generate societal and economic impact? How robust is our technology and methods transfer?
3. How can Astrobiology be an organizing theme more broadly

across NASA missions and research?

4. How clear and engaging is the narrative of Astrobiology for the public? Are the core guiding questions and statements of astrobiology adequate?
5. Are the scientific, philosophical, humanistic, arts and humanities principles that supported astrobiology during the past decades adequate going forward?

This is an ideation, feedback and visioning session to plant seeds for our multigenerational future.

**Potential Panelists – to be invited**

David Grinspoon; Sr. Scientist for Astrobiology Strategy, NASA

Dante Lauretta; OSIRIS-REx P.I.

Daniella Scalice; Education and Communications Lead, NASA Astrobiology

Abigail Sheffer; Senior program officer, Space Studies Board of the National Academies

Steven Dick; Former Chief Historian, NASA; Astrobiology scholar and author.

Daniel Lappin – Interogenesis Designs, Independent Scholar, Physiologist.

**Comments:**

This proposal defers to any proposal from David Grinspoon or others. I can participate in any townhall oriented towards these themes. My contribution is an informal scoping review of these issues.

**Presenter**

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- You may review or edit your submission until the deadline of **23:59 EST/00:00 +1 GMT** After this date, no further edits will be made to the proposal.

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