

SETICon II Notes

----- Exoplanets

Geoff Marcy: The vast majority of Kepler planets are 1-3x the diam of earth.
Approx density of water
Predominantly water. Confirmed spectroscopically

Seth Shostak: The real influence of Kepler is not what we will learn but what it will prompt is to do.

The race to find alien life

"will it discover life before the end of the second administration?"
Question asked to Scott Hubbard on talks with us budget office.

David summers: How does SETI define intelligent life? It knows how to use a radio.

David summers: There's pretty much no way in which we'll discover alien life and NOT learn something about the origin of life on earth.

humans vs robots - who should explore?

[sending humans] doesn't make sense in a dollar or science perspective - Cynthia Phillips on humans vs robots

There's a danger in thinking linearly about what robotics can do in 25 years. Progress is actually exponential. Bob Richards

Space is where we can conquer a frontier without conquering each other. Bob Richards

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