

Grounding the SETI and UAP debate: Law, evidence, and anticipated futures



Photomontage: Andreas Müller

International Symposium | Durham Law School
24 April 2025 | PCL 048 | Hogan Lovells Lecture
Theatre and via Zoom

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09.00 – 09.30: Arrival of speakers and delegates

09.30 – 11.15: Session 1

Philippe Ailleris

Towards a Systematic Framework for UAP Evidence Evaluation: Introducing The Rainier Scale

Mike Cifone

Down to Earth: Characterizing the landscape of (scientific) UAP studies

Beatriz Villaroel

Searches for Near-Earth Extraterrestrial Artifacts with Hypothesis-Driven Science

Q & A

11.15 – 11.30 Tea and coffee

11.30 – 13.15: Session 2

Chris Senn

Structuring archiving and search parameters for the "Archives of the Impossible" as an example of facilitating coordinated access to historical encounter evidence

Andreas Anton (with Michael Bohlander and John Elliott)

The global survey "Contact with Extraterrestrial Intelligence – A study of projected perceptions and reactions among the world's societies" - First results

Christian Peters

Alien Minds and the Problems of a Political Epistemology of the UAP-Phenomenon

Q & A

13.15 – 14.15: Lunch

14.15 – 16.00: Session 3

Eric Hilgendorf

Contemplating the alien – The impact of SETI on human self-image

Michael Bohlander

Alien encounter narratives in the courts – Part 2: Findings

Jia Wang

Monopolizing high-tech in the hands of powerful humans after contact with extraterrestrial civilizations

Q & A

16.00 – 16.15: Tea and Coffee

16.15 – 17.00: Session 4

Plenary debate

Next steps in research

Closing remarks