EXPLORING THE ORIGIN, EXTENT, AND FUTURE OF LIFE

Philosophical, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives

Where did we come from? Are we alone? Where are we going? These are the questions that define the field of astrobiology. New discoveries about life on Earth, the increasing numbers of extrasolar planets being identified, and the technologies being developed to locate and characterize Earth-like planets around other stars, are continually challenging our views of nature and our connection to the rest of the universe.

In this book, philosophers, historians, ethicists, and theologians provide the perspectives of their fields on the research and discoveries of astrobiology. A valuable resource for graduate students and researchers, the book provides an introduction to astrobiology, and explores subjects such as the implications of current origin-of-life research, the possible discovery of extraterrestrial microbial life, and the possibility of altering the environment of Mars.

Constance M. Bertka is an Adjunct Professor at the Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington DC. She was Director of the Program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) from 2002 to 2008.
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EXPLORING THE ORIGIN, EXTENT, AND FUTURE OF LIFE
Philosophical, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives

Edited by

CONSTANCE M. BERTKA
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Contributors

Constance M. Bertka
Program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion, American Association for the Advancement of Science; Wesley Theological Seminary, 1108 Churchview Place, Potomac, MD 20854, USA

Francisca Cho
Department of Theology, Georgetown University, 108 New North, 37 and O streets NW, Washington, DC 20057, USA

Cynthia S. W. Crysdale
School of Theology, Sewanee: The University of the South, 735 University Ave., Sewanee, TN 37383, USA

Celia Deane-Drummond
Centre for Religion and the Biosciences, Theology and Religious Studies Department, University of Chester, Parkgate Road, Chester, CH1 4BJ, UK

Steven J. Dick
History Division, National Aeronautics and Space Administration Headquarters, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546, USA

Iris Fry
The Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas, Tel Aviv University, P.O. Box 39040, Ramat Aviv, Tel-Aviv, 69978, Israel

Robert M. Hazen
Carnegie Institution of Washington, Geophysical Laboratory, George Mason University, 5251 Broad Branch Rd NW, Washington, DC 20015, USA
List of contributors

Jack J. Lissauer
Space Science and Astrobiology Institute, Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Mark Lupisella
Goddard Space Flight Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 8800 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20771, USA

Christopher P. McKay
Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Mail Stop 245-3, Moffett Field, CA 94035, USA

Ernan McMullin
Program of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Notre Dame, 100 Malloy Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA

Carl B. Pilcher
Astrobiology Institute, Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Moffett Field, CA 94035, USA

Margaret S. Race
SETI Institute, 515 N. Whisman Road, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

Richard O. Randolph
Bioethics Department, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, 1750 Independence Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 641006-1453, USA

Lynn J. Rothschild
Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Mail Stop 245-3, Moffett Field, CA 94035, USA

Kelly C. Smith
Department of Philosophy and Religion, Clemson University, 126D Hardin Hall, Clemson, SC 29634, USA

James E. Strick
Program in Science, Technology, and Society, Franklin and Marshall College, P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604, USA
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