

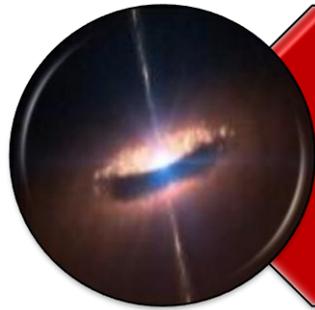


**NASA Astrobiology Institute
Executive Council Meeting**

**Jorge I. Núñez
IAC**

Washington D.C – September 13, 2012

IAC Main Areas of Interest



Education



Communication



Research

- Continuing with outreach program in primary and secondary school classrooms.
- Promoting astrobiology at universities.
- Interest in a Latin American School of Astrobiology (Similar to School of Santander).
In order to establish a network of collaboration between students and researchers.

EDUCATION





2^o Congreso Internacional de
ASTROBIOLOGÍA
M E D E L L Í N 2 0 1 2

Planetario de Medellín
Medellín, Colombia
September 24-28

COMMUNICATION



Invited Speakers

Dr. Simon Worden



Prof. Jeffrey Linsky



Prof. Dave Waltham



Dr. Jorge Nuñez



Dr. Jesús Galindo



Dr. Eugenio Andrade



Dr. Jorge I. Zuluaga



Blgo Jorge E. Bueno P.



Organizan:



Asociado a:



Organizers and Sponsors



Apoyan:



COMMUNICATION



2° Congreso Internacional de Astrobiología

- Consist of invited, oral and poster presentations from international and national researchers as well as graduate and undergraduate students (Estimated ~100 attendees)
- Topics range from hunting for exoplanets to origin of life to impact of astronomy in early native cultures
- Provides venue for researchers primarily from Colombia and Latin America to share results and ideas related to astrobiology as well as develop future collaborations
- Includes evening public lectures to engage local community and promote astrobiology

COMMUNICATION



1er Encuentro Juvenil de Astrobiología

25 al 27
Octubre
2012

Cartagena - Colombia

Informes:
www.astrobiologia.org



COMMUNICATION



First Astrobiology Youth Meeting in Colombia

- First meeting of its kind in Colombia focused on engaging middle school and high school students as well as teachers throughout Colombia
- Includes invited presentations from Colombian and US speakers
- Seeks to generate interest in astrobiology and science as well as encourage students to pursue careers in STEM fields



COMMUNICATION





ASTROBIOLOGY

The Story of our Search for Life in the Universe



Produced by the NASA Astrobiology Program to commemorate 50 years of Exobiology and Astrobiology at NASA.

www.nasa.gov

- Interest in design and publication of astrobiology-related materials in Spanish
- Following conversations with the editors at AbSciCon in Atlanta, first step will be to translate Astrobiology Graphic Novels
- We have identified individuals that can translate the material.

COMMUNICATION



- Early IAC efforts have focused on education and outreach (with great success). Great interest in expanding research activities and collaborations.
- Individual researcher groups already engaged in astrobiology-related research in Colombia (mainly in ecology, microbiology and paleontology)
- Initial efforts under way to identify and compile database of environments and locations within Colombia that would be of interest to astrobiology-related research (includes extremophile research and planetary analogs)

RESEARCH



- Taking steps to create awareness, advance research activities and build new research partnerships
- 2 Congreso Internacional de Astrobiología in Medellin, Colombia builds on first event to create more awareness between researchers in Colombia and foster new collaborations
- Interest in building and fostering research collaboration between researchers in Colombia and counterparts in the U.S. (and other countries) in order to generate joint research projects on common topics

RESEARCH

