

35th Symposium on The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) – The Next Steps  
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SETI II - Interdisciplinary Aspects (2.)

Author: Dr. Allen Tough

University of Toronto, Toronto, ONT, Canada, allentough@ietl.org

## **RETHINKING ETI**

### **Abstract**

As a scientific field progresses, it may occasionally reach a point where a fundamental re-examination of the core phenomenon is useful. After 45 years of null results, the SETI field may have reached such a point. The field might benefit greatly from rethinking the nature of extraterrestrial intelligence (ETI). This paper reports on a recent effort to rethink ETI. Is ETI flesh-and-blood or post-biological? What are its capabilities, ethics, goals, projects, and other major features? How could our searches be improved? What are the major differences between this study and a somewhat similar study completed by the author 20 years ago (reported in JBIS in 1986)?