



About Kepler Space Institute and University

By Robert L. Frantz, President, Kepler Space Institute

The vision for a United States Space University has been held by thousands of Space professionals and educators for decades. We are now moving forward towards our vision with the incorporation of Kepler Space Institute, Inc. in the state of Florida. Our next step will be to register with the Florida Department of Higher Education, after which we can assume our new name as Kepler Space University. Along with board member Walter Putnam, who has set up temporary living in Titusville, Florida, we have scouted potential sites for our new office. We will likely be within a five-minute drive of the Kennedy Space Center's main gate. We continue to operate Kepler Space Institute in South Carolina as a nonprofit and the center for our space development think tank.

Kepler Space Institute/University is committed to direct its efforts, resources, qualifications, and talents to endeavors that benefit humanity now and in the future. Our KSI leadership formulated the *Law of Space Abundance* in 2009, defined as "*Space offers abundant resources for humanity's needs.*" It was a logical law flowing from research and discoveries over centuries. We seek to guide people, groups, businesses, agencies, and international organizations to achieve new goals and visions facilitated by the material and spiritual resources that await us in Space. To this end, we have recently collaborated on an academic paper for asteroid mining moving us from words to deeds.

Our Kepler Team, which collectively has spent one thousand work years within the Space Community, is proud to be continuing the world's first *Journal of Space Philosophy* with this Fall 2013 issue. We invite global Space professionals and enthusiasts to subscribe to the Journal on our website, www.keplerspaceuniversity.com. There is no charge and we encourage global comments on our blog dedicated to the Journal, regarding the streams of intelligence you will find and on our proposed KSI Space Philosophy, "*Reverence for Life Within Ethical Civilization*" provided by our Provost, Dr. Bob Krone.

We are proud to use the name Kepler in recognition of Johannes Kepler, whose mathematical genius in defining our solar system remains a legacy today in the studies of orbital mechanics in aerospace education around the world. *The Journal of Space Philosophy* represents a new renaissance era in the spirit of Johannes Kepler, which will be the incubator in space development for both Earth's benefits and for humankind's survival.



This is where we will build a second Kepler office in the virtual world. We can also practice building here. The actual spaceship designs will be done above in the Starship Kepler now in virtual low earth orbit. The ship will initially have only a thin skin structure. Then it will be moved to a stabilized position at an Earth/Moon Lagrange Point. Here mined materials will be brought up on the space elevator tether first to have our robotically-run 3D printers print plates for inside the skin to provide deep space radiation protection. Once protected, human contractors can be sent up to complete the ship's infrastructure, again using 3D printers. The ship will spin slowly, as Von Braun envisioned, for artificial gravity.

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About the Author: Robert “Bob” Frantz’s first career was as a United States Marine Corps Fighter Pilot. His flying achievements and Vietnam War combat decorations led to his Chairman of the Board position in America’s Distinguished Flying Cross Society. His second flying career was as a commercial airlines Captain flying the globe with United Airlines. Between flights, he earned the University of Southern California’s Master of Science in Systems Management Degree Program, which launched him into the field of Education. He became an expert in the technology of online education, which he has applied to Ashburn University and Kepler Space Institute; he earned the PhD in Earth and Space Sciences. As this Journal of Space Philosophy is published online he is teaching, consulting and strategic planning for the future of Kepler Space University.



Editor's Notes: Kepler Space Institute and University (KSI & KSU) have been blessed throughout their short existence by the volunteer work of talented entrepreneurs with extensive experience in the Space Community. When our Founding President, Dr. Richard Kirby, died at the height of his intellectual productivity, on September 24, 2009, our group of Kepler leaders turned to Robert L. Frantz, who had all the qualifications needed to become President. He said "Yes" (no salary was available) and has brought KSI to operational status and supervised KSU planning ever since. *Bob Krone, PhD.*